MR. CHAIRMAN : Please, I think all these points have been mentioned....

(Interruptions)

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : वह गलत आन्सर दे रहे हैं। सरकार ने कमिटमेंट क्यों दिया है? 200 करोड़ की मशीन वैसे ही पड़ी हुई है।...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jagmohan. Please give him a chance.... *(Interruptions)* We have to give a chance to all the persons who want to ask questions or to as many as possible.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : The point is, the reply of the Minister is not accurate.

Environmental Deterioration

*122. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that world environment in general and Indian environment in particular has deteriorated in the period intervening Stockholm Conference (1972) and Rio Conference (1992);

(b) if not, what are the comparative data in the major areas; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what precise measures are being advocated at the international level and what concrete steps are being taken at the National level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) It is well accepted that in the last two deceades there has been world wide deterioration in the environment.

(c) At the international level, India has been participating in the ongoing negotiations aimed at improving the environment, including the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). India has joined the Montreal Protocol on Substance that deplete the Ozone Layer. India has also signed the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Follow-up action at the national level has also been initiated on the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in June, 1992, at Rio de Janeiro.

Also at the national level, in order to prevent deterioration of the environment and to promote conservation of nature and natural resources, several concrete measures have been taken by Government. These include legislative measures such as the Wildife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and the Environment (Protecton) Act, 1986. Besides, important policy statement have been made, such as the National Forest Policy (1988), the Policy on Abatement of Pollution (1992) and the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Develoment (1992). Other measures include, implementation of action programmes for 'cleaning' and 'greening'; including the Ganga Action Plan, afforestattion and tree planting on degraded lands, control of industrial pollution by laying down standards and enforcing them, taking measures to promote cleaner techonologies, management of hazardous substances, zoning of ecologically sensitive areas, promoting further research and scientific understanding of the environmental problems with a view to taking corrective steps; strengthening impact assesment procedures; involvement of non-government organisations and Cen-

tres of Excellence as well as University Systems; environment education and awareness campaigns; and strengthing of infrastructure and capacity-building both at the Central and State levels.

Today is a very apt day for this question being the National Prevention of Pollution day.

SHRI JAGMOHAN : In reply to part (a) and (b) of the question, the hon. Minister has admitted that there has been deterioration of environment during the last 20 years, that is, during the period of Stockholm Conference and the Rio Conference. And for part (c) of the question, he has elaborated the measures that have been taken. My easy question is, how is it

मर्ज बढ़ता गया ज्यों-ज्यों दवा की ।

you have been winning the battle but ultimately you lost the war. The things have deteriorated more than they should have. Instead of improving they have deteriorated in the last 20 years. Anyhow, my specific question in the first supplementary is, what positive measures has the Government taken ? You know there are preventive measures that you take, and the legislative measures where you don't allow a particular project and so on. But my question is, what positive measures has the Government taken to develop alternative strategies of development which do not damage the environment but ultimately improve the environment ? May I cite a case as an example ? What has been done during the last twenty years in the field of human settlement technology to improve the urban environment of the slum-dwellers whose number has been increasing tremendously during this period ? For example, in Delhi two million people, everyday in the evening, burn inferior quality charcol which gets into the atmosphere and because of the dense atmosphere it just accumulates and creates a very serious environment and health problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please ask your question ?

SHRI JAGMOHAN : What is the positive strategy the Government is pursuing in this regard ?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Undoubtedly the last twenty years have seen greater pollution problems at the national level, and at the global level too. These environment problems have arisen on two counts--those arising out of the negative effects of the very process of development and those out of the very conditions of poverty and under-development. So, due to development of science and technology during the last twenty years, we have seen not only major urban pressures but development of more hazaardous toxic chemicals. Also the experience during these twenty years has helped us to evaluate, to assess the damage the impact of our activities whether they be industries or otherwise.

With regard to the specific question as to what are the measures which have been taken, there are a series of measures which have been taken. About eight months ago, I placed before Parliament the National Conservation Strategy which dealt with the streategy for sustainable development. This booklet is available in Parliament Library. Similarly, about eight or ten months ago, I place before Parliament the National Pollution Abatement Policy regarding pollution and conservation within our country and the steps to be taken, integrating all facts of it.

Regarding the specific problem of urbanisation, it is very correct that urbanisation is one of our great environmental hazards and by one estimate made, about 13 thousand people per day are getting urbanised —shifting from the rural areas to the

major urban areas. With regard to Delhi specifically, there is the National Capital Region Plan and the Ministry of Urban Development is handling the issues of urban congestion and urban development. Urban development is not a matter which comes under my Ministry. Nevertheless there are certain guidelines and restrictions on certain types of urban activities, that is, construction.

With regard to pollution from charcoal, the problem is there. But the pollutant load in Delhi is not merely because of that. 65% or 60% of the pollutant load in Delhi arises out of vehicular pollution. Charcoal or coal pollution is one of the contributory factors. But this is to meet the basic energy needs of the low income groups, the people belonging to the economically weaker sections. That is the problem. Until are provided with alternative energy resources, nothing can be done on this count.

SHRI JAGMOHAN : Well, my question was about human settlement technology. Anyhow, my second supplementary is with regard to the specific measures the Govt. are taking to inculcate new attitudes and new values, which could actually create a culture of compassion and contentment and change the lifestyle, consumerism which is also contributing to the environment degradation. I would like to know as to what is being done by the Government in this regard as a policy.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, it is very correct that attitudes had to be changed. Things cannot be done merely by legislaton, regulation and inspection. National Environment Awareness Campaign is being conducted which is covering the NGOs various citizen groups, schools and colleges, which enlightens people on sustainable development, on the need for conservation, on the need for preserving biodiversity.

And, Sir, this has been our successful campaign and we are continuing this campaign in a big manner based on what we have been able to organise and evaluate in the last couple of years when this programme has been on. This year, our campaign, our National Environment Awareness Campaign, is focused on biodiversity and, similarly, the various policy pronouncements of the Ministry are disseminated to the people, to the various institutions. We have, the Ministry itself has, some institutions of excellence which are also disseminating these.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Shankar Dayal Singh.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : सभापति जी, यह पर्यावरण विषय नया होते हुए भी सर्वव्यापी है। विश्व में तथा अपने देश में इसको लेकर चर्चाएं भी होती रही है और चिंताएं भी होती रही हैं। माननीय सदस्य जगमोहन जी ने जो सवाल पूछा है उसके भाग (ग) के अंतिम शब्द से मेरा सवाल संबंधित है कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर क्या ठोस कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। इस संबंध में यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आपने राज्यवार कोई ऐसे आंकड़े बनाए हैं कि किन किन राज्यों में इस संबंध में क्या क्या ठोस कदम उठाए गये हैं ? दूसरी बात, क्या विज्ञान केन्द्र और कृषि केन्द्रों की तरह से सरकार का विचार है कि पर्यावरण केन्द्र भी जहां-तहां स्थापित किये जाएं जिससे आम जनता को इससे लाभ मिल सके ? तीसरी बात यह है कि इधर आज की अखबारों में आया है "आइए, तीन मूर्ति परिसर चलें" जहां पर्यावरण विकास प्रदर्शनी लगी हुई है मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या अन्य राज्यों में भी आप इस तरह की प्रदर्शनियों का आयोजन करेंगे जिससे लोगों को लाभ मिल सके ?

श्री कमल नाथ : सभापति जी, अन्य राज्यों के प्रदूषण बोर्ड है। उन्हें यह जिम्मेदारी दी गई है। जो आंकड़े हैं हर राज्य के अलग-अलग आंकड़े बनाए जाते हैं कि हर वर्ष हर राज्य अपने यहां क्या कर रहे हैं, क्या नीतियों का पालन किया जा रहा है। नीतियों का पालन करने की प्रमख जिम्मेदारी तो राज्यों की है। राज्यों के प्रदूषण बोर्डों को मजबूत किया गया है,

पिछले साल में धनराशि की दृष्टि से और मैनेजमेंट की दृष्टि से। आज यहां प्रदर्शनी लग रही है, सब राज्यों में लग रही है। मैंने खुद मुख्य मंत्रियों को चिट्ठी लिखी है कि कल जो हमारा नेशनल कंजरवेशन डे है और आज हमारा राष्ट्रीय पोल्यूशन प्रिवेंशन डे है दोनों को राज्यों में मनाया जाए ताकि राज्य भी इस अभियान में पूरी तरह सम्मिलित हों। (**व्यवधान**) माननीय सदस्य ने जो विज्ञान केन्द्र के बारे में प्रश्न किया है, हमने दो योजनाए बनाई थी जो अपने देश में 100 जिलों में पर्यावरण वाहिनी बनाने की है। एक योजना यह है कि अपने देश के 100 जिलों में पर्यावरण वाहिनी स्थापित की जाएगी। यह केन्द्रीय सरकार की योजना है राज्य सरकार जिलों के कलेक्टर्ज के माध्यम से इस वाहिनी के सदस्यों का चयन करेगी। इनको पूरी किताबें, पूरी जानकारी का एक पेकेज बना कर दिया जाएगा ताकि यह एक नये प्रकार का विज्ञान केन्द्र बने, विज्ञान केन्द्र तो नहीं लेकिन उस प्रकार का काम करे। इसमें हमारे देश के नौजवान भी भागीदार बनें। एक और योजना है वानिकी वाहिनी की। वह भी अगले साल से शुरू की जाएगी।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद।

रफीक आलम: सभापति जी, अगर दिल्ली में देखिए तो शाम के वक्त आपको दो आसमान नजर आते हैं एक तो अल्लाह मियां का आसमान और दूसरा धूएं का आसमान। इसमें सब से ज्यादा पोल्यूशन डी० टी० सी० की बस वाले करते हैं और ट्रक और टेम्पू वाले करते हैं। इसका नतीजा यह है कि आज जिस अस्पताल में चले जाइये आप यह देखेंगे कि सीने की बिमारियां सब से ज्यादा हैं। कैंसर वगैरह की बिमारियां फैल रहीं हैं टी० बी० वगैरह बहुत ज्यादा फल रही है। इसलिए दिल्ली के लोगों के लिए बड़ा हैजार्डस मामला है। मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि सरकार इस सिलसिले में क्या एक्शन लेने जा रही है जिस तरह से दिल्ली में पाल्यूशन हो रहा है?

شری رفیق عالم: سبھاپتی جی۔ اگر دلی میں دیکھئے تو شام کے وقت آپ کو دو آسمان نظر آئیں گے۔ ایک تو اللہ میاں کا آسمان اور دوسرا دھوئیں کا آسمان۔ اس میں سب سے زیادہ پولیوشن ڈی۔ ٹی۔ سی کی بس والے کرتے ہیں اور ٹرک اور ٹیمپو والے کرتے ہیں۔ اس کا نتیجہ یہ ہے کہ آج جس اسپتال میں چلے جائیے آپ یہ دیکھیں گے کہ سینے کی بیماریاں سب سے زیادہ ہیں۔ کینسر وغیرہ کی بیماریاں پھیل رہی ہیں۔ ٹی۔ بی وغیرہ بہت زیادہ پھیل رہی ہے۔ اس لئے دلی کے لوگوں کے لئے بڑا ہیزارڈس معاملہ ہے۔ میں سرکار سے یہ جاننا چاہوں گا کہ سرکار اس سلسلہ میں کیا ایکشن لے رہی ہے جس طرح سے دلی میں پالیوشن ہو رہا ہے۔

श्री कमलनाथ: यह बात तो सच है कि दिल्ली के घातक प्रदूषण का प्रश्न है। दिल्ली विश्व का चौथा सबसे ज्यादा प्रदूषित शहर है। जैसा मैंने कहा कि 60–65 परसेंट इसमें जो वाहन से प्रदूषण होता है वह उसकी जिम्मेदारी रखता है। साथ साथ जो

[Translitration in Arabic Script]

हमारे दो बिजलीघर हैं यहां इन्द्रप्रस्थ और राजघाट में इनसे भी प्रदूषण ज्यादा फैल रहा है। इसमें मैंने मीटिंग ली थी और दोनों जो बिजलीघर हैं उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया है कि 31 मार्च, तक जो भी उनके इक्विपमेन्ट जो काम नहीं कर रहे थे वे ठीक हो करके पूरी तरह से आपरेटेड होंगे। जहां तक वाहन के प्रदूषण का प्रश्न है इमिशन स्टैंडर्ड जो है हमने सेट करे हुए हैं। जो अभियान या पाल्यूशन चेक का वह अब तेजी से फिर से किया जा रहा है पर जैसा मैंने कहा कि यह केवल इन्सपेक्टर्स या लेबिल्स या कानून के माध्यम से सफल नहीं हो पाएगा। इसमें आम जनता को भी जुड़ना पड़ेगा। इसके लिए भी एक अभियान कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है।

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Sir, on the lines of the Ganga Action Plan, is there any plan for the southern States for the Krishna, Godavari, Cauvery and other rivers to augment the Action Plan ? If so, at what stage of consideration is this with the Central Government ?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, recently we have formulated the National River Action Plan which includes about 22 of the most polluted stretches of the rivers in the country. This has been approved very recently and will be implemented. It does have some of the stretches of the polluted rivers in the South which have been assessed by the Central Pollution Control Board. We have picked 22 most polluted stretches of all the rivers in the country.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : What are those in the South ?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Specifically I do not have that information with me. But I will be glad to send it to the hon. Member. But, what he is mentioning, some of the rivers are there in the National River Action Plan. This Plan will be merged with the Ganga Action Plan, Phase-2, and will be implemented in the Eighth Plan period.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 123.

Verification of Quality of Equipment Before Purchase of Switches and Crossings by the Railways

*123. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways verify the quality of equipments while purchasing switches and crossings from any firm;

(b) whether RDSO cautioned the railways about this; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Verification of quality of equipment before purchase of Switches and Crossings

(a) to (c)

The position in respect of purchase of switches and crossings is as under :

Regular orders for the tendered quantity for fabrication and supply of switches and crossings are being placed on seven firms who are the established suppliers for these items.

In addition, developmental orders each for 100 nos. of switches and crossings out side the tendered quantity have been approved and processed for placement on 13 firms in order to promote new avenues of supply of these items and to create competition.

Developmental orders are being placed on 13 firms who shall have to get the prototypes of switches and crossings inspected and cleared by Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) before regular manufacture to ensure that switches and crossings conform to requisite specifications.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Sir, the information is not complete; it perhaps hides some information. The information with me is that the RDSO had in their letters to the Ministry in February and April informed about some 14 companies